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Proposed Budget Puts Hold on Tax Rate

Cost for operating North Dansville town government in 1988 will go up—but the tax rate is expected to stay about the same.

The preliminary budget unveiled by Supervisor Robert Hart this week shows a \$303,232 financial plan for next year. And while this represents an increase over the \$286,617 budget for this year, a boost in outside revenue, an unexpended balance and a slight increase in property valuation will combine to hold taxes at a steady rate.

The projected rate for parcels inside the village is \$1.38 per thousand dollars of valuation, the same as this year. For property in the town outside the village, the rate is expected to be \$2.64 per thousand, also the same as for 1987.

Supervisor Hart said the exact rates cannot be determined until final valuation totals are received from the county Tax

Department. However, he said it is expected this will show a slight increase over the current figure. As a result, tax rates could go up or down about two cents a thousand, depending on the final assessments. The town's assessed valuation for 1987 is \$91,655,686.

A public hearing on the proposed budget is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The budget shows \$175,835 in the general fund with estimated outside revenues of \$104,200, an unexpended balance of \$10,000, leaving \$61,635 to be raised by taxes. The overall budget of \$303,232 will require \$159,331 to be raised by taxation, an increase of only \$3,467 over the current year's figure. Estimated revenues overall are set at \$131,488, a jump over the \$122,686 received for this year. Total unexpended balance in the current budget to carry over to 1988 is \$12,413.

A breakdown of the proposed spending plan shows a

general part-town appropriation of \$6,484 and a townwide highway allocation of \$77,137. Listed for highway work outside the village is \$43,766. Revenue other than taxes will provide \$4,071 for the part-town general fund, \$8,852 for the townwide highway fund and \$14,365 for the highway fund outside the village.

Taxes will be required to provide \$68,285 for the townwide highway operation and \$29,411 for the outside-village highway work.

As was the case for 1987, there are no federal revenue sharing funds included in the proposed budget for 1988 as the program expired and was not renewed by Congress. In 1986, the federal program brought \$21,000 to North Dansville. For several years, previous to that, the annual revenue sharing check from Washington came to about \$32,000.

Long Range Proposal

County Villages Seek Larger Sales Tax Share

Although increasing the share of sales tax revenues for Livingston County's nine villages may be a while down the road, it appears to be a topic that will not be dropped right away by the county Association of Village Mayors and Trustees.

"I don't think anybody is going to expect anything right away," said Dansville Mayor Michael Kane, but the association named a Standing Committee on Sales Tax to study the problem and develop concrete proposals to be presented to the Board of Supervisors, he said.

The association started its campaign at its meeting last week in Caledonia. It has been described as the organization's strongest bid to change the Board of Supervisors' sharing formula in the 15 years that it has been in effect.

The county gave a 3 1/2 percent share to school districts that has been used to keep school taxes down, and 6 1/2 percent to towns, which must share the revenue according to relative population if they have a village within their boundaries.

The total sales tax pool now amounts to about \$8 million annually, making the town-village share about \$500,000.

Kane said that with the state not picking up any slack for the loss of revenue sharing and no more coming from the county, "We need more money."

He noted that the village of Dansville budgeted \$40,000 "as expected revenue from sales tax," about the same amount received during fiscal year 1986-87.

Kane said a possibility for addi-

tional funding from the sales tax revenue is dividing it on the basis of population, but he favored also a compromise solution proposed by North Dansville Supervisor Robert F. Hart who described the village request as reasonable.

Hart, citing the percentage of sales tax generated in the villages, described their request as reasonable; nevertheless he said he doesn't feel they are likely to be successful asking schools and the county to take a lesser amount of an established sales tax base.

He proposes an agreement to provide a larger village share after the sales tax tops an agreed-upon level. He said it is certain and historically true the sales tax receipts will continue to raise. "I think this idea ought to work," Hart said.

FAA Cites Safety Factors Agency Blocks Project

Dansville Girl Scouts To Launch Cookie Sale

Proposed construction of a five-store addition to Ames Plaza has been placed on hold, at least for now, after the Federal Aviation Administration denied approval of the project due to its location in relation to the north-south runway at Dansville Municipal Airport.

The proposed project, located at the west end of the shopping center between Franklin and Maple Streets, was determined by the FAA to be 245 feet from the approach end of runway 36 exceeding the obstruction standards established by the federal agency.

According to the FAA, construc-

tion of the building would require a "144-foot runway threshold displacement," a move that probably will not be acceptable without affecting the future of the airport and the federal funding that it will receive.

Dansville Mayor Michael Kane said the FAA is to conduct an appeals hearing on its findings Oct. 21 in Jamaica, L.I.

Kane said that as far as the village is concerned, "We're in favor of it (Ames' expansion), but we don't want to jeopardize the airport or its future funding." The hope is that a compromise will be reached during the appeals hear-

ing, the mayor stated.

Ames Plaza owners, MBM Investment, earlier this summer sought authorization to proceed with its project that would increase to 11 the number of stores at the site.

In May, the Town-Village Planning Board gave tentative ap-

proval for the 8,500-square-foot

expansion project with the stipulation that the investment firm gain FAA approval.

MBM officials met with the FAA also in May to seek its approval delaying construction for the outcome of that session.

By July that clearance had not been received. The federal agency was having second thoughts about the construction because of its location and effect on runway 36.

Kenneth Burdman, an official of the investment firm, said that after approval of the FAA construction of the project would take about 90 days for completion.

The proposed building is planned to be about 16 feet high. The exterior walls are to be finished with a brown surface. An entrance to the area is to be from Maple Street.

Burdman said four tenants have been secured for the new stores. The plaza presently has six businesses including Ames Department Store and a Tops Market.

The cookies are baked especially for the Girl Scouts by Burry-LU, using vegetable shortening, top-quality ingredients and without preservatives. All varieties of cookies are Kosher and are freezeable.

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